# Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
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**UNCLAS BUCHAREST 1634** 

FOREIGN DISTASTER RELIEF (OFDA)

GENEVA FOR UNDRO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, EAID, RO

SUBJECT: EARTHQUAKE: SITREP 4 MARCH 8

REF: BUCHAREST 1608; BUCHAREST 1588

1. SUMMARY: DEATH TOLL HAS CLIMBED ABOVE 1,000. LATEST REPORTS FROM SEVEAL JUDET SHOW SHARP RISE IN DAMAGE. ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BECOME MORE CAUTIOUS ABOUT EVACUATING DAMAGED HOUSING. NEW RELIEF OFFERS CONTINUE TO FLOW. END SUMMARY.

### 2. DEATH/INJURIES/HOMELESS

RADIO BUCHAREST REPORTED LAST EVENING LIST OF FATALITIES HAD RISEN TO 1,034 WITH 6,185 INJURED. OF DEATHS, 810 RECORDED UNCLASSIFIED

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IN BUCHAREST AND 224 IN PROVINCES. SAME FIGURE GIVEN BY DEPY MIN HEALTH CALOMFIRESCU TO SCIATT/RMO THIS MONRING. ON HOUSING PROBLEM WELL-PLACED SOURCE HAS INFORMED US THAT IN ADDITION TO 34 APARTMENT HOUSES ALREADY DOWN, BUILDING COMMISSIONS HAVE UNTIL NOW CONDEMED FOR DESTRUCTION 120 OTHER UNITS. ON AVERAGE EACH OF THESE UNITS HAS 35 APARTMENT. ALL OF PEOPLE MADE HOMELESS THUS FAR ARE BEING ABSORBED N EXISTING HOUSING. IN

CONFORMITY WITH ROMANIAN POLICY THERE ARE NO TENT CITIES BEING ERECTED.

#### 3. DAMAGE IN OTHER AREAS.

MORNING PRESS CARRIED REPORTS OF SERIOUS HOUSING AND INDUSTRIAL LOSSES IN PRAHOVA AND BUZAU JUDET. IN PLOIESTI 194 HOMES WERE DESTROYED AND ANOTHER 2,194 DAMAGED. THIRTY FIVE OF 70 AFFECTED ECONOMIC UNITS IN PRAHOVA JUDET WERE IN PLOIESTI. NINETEEN OF THESE 35 ARE REPORTED FUNCTIONING NORMALLY AND ADDITIONAL 15 ARE PARTLY IN OPERATION. SULPHURIC ACID PLANT AT VALEA CALUGAREASCA COMBINE REPORTED COMPLETELY DESTROYED, REQUIRING THREE MONTSH TO REBUILD. IN BUZAU MORE THAN 1,900 STRUCTURES, INCLUDING 300 SCHOOLS, HAVE BEEN PARTIALLY OR TOTALLY DESTROYED.

#### 4. VITAL STRUCTURES

AS WE REPORTED SEPARATELY (BUCHAREST 1608) NUMBER OF UNSERVICEABLE GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURES IS INCREASING. BY THIS AFTERNOON WE ARE AWARE OF THREE MINISTRIES (FOREIGN TRADE, METALLURGY, AND FOREST INDUSTRY) THAT HAVE MOVED TO OTHER QUARTERS (MINES, PETROLEUM AND GEOLOGY IS REPORTEDLY RETURNING TO ITS DAMAGED QUARTERS). SIX FTO'S ARE ALSO DISLOCATED. "ROMANIA LIBERA" GAVE COMPLETE RUNDOWN TODAY ON TRANSPORT AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS. WHILE SOME TRAINS CONTINUE TO BE DIVERTED TO OTHER STATIONS, MOST SERVICE HAS NOW BEEN RESTORED THROUGH NORTH STATION. TAROM HAS REPORTEDLY ORGANIZED SPECIAL FLIGHTS TO COMPENSATE FOR DIMISHED RAIL CAPACITY. ONE BADLY-HIT TELEPHONE EXCHANGE IN BUCHAREST (ION SULEA) IS OUT OF SERVICE, WHILE REMAINDER OF SYSTEM IS REPORTED UNDERGOING THOROUGH TESTING. IN DISCUSSION OF DAMAGE TO WEST AND SOUTH THERMAL-UNCLASSIFIED

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POWER STATIONS, WHICH TOGETHER ACCOUNT FOR 30-40 PERCENT OF BUCHAREST'S ELECTRICAL GENERATING CAPACITY, SCIATT LEARNED THAT DAMAGE TO TURBINES COULD KEEP WEST STATION OUT OF SERVICE FOR 4-6 MONTHS. DEPUTY MINISTRY OF HEALTH CALAMFIRESCU STATED THAT SEVERAL PREVIOUSLY-EVACUATED HOSPITALS (INCLUDING EMERGENCY HOSPITAL) WOULD RESUME OPERATION.

#### 5. GOVERNMENT ACTIONS.

TO STEM PANIC EVACUATION OF SERVICEABLE BUILDINGS POLEXCO DETERMINED AT ITS MEETING YESTERDAY THAT OCCUPANTS WOULD BE REMOVED ONLY UPON DETERMINATION BY SPECIALISTS THAT SERIOUS STRUCTURAL DAMAGE RENDERED BUILDINGS UNSAFE. WHERE PART OF BUILDING HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY DAMAGED ONLY THAT PART IS TO BE EVACUATED. RESIDENTS OF DETACHED HOUSES HAVE BEEN CALLED UPON TO MAKE MINOR REPAIRS THEMSELVES. DEMOLITION OF UNSAFE STRUCTURES HAS BEEN DEFERRED UNTIL LATER STAGE.

#### 6. AGRICULTURAL LOSSES

WE RECEIVED FROM MINAG ON PRIVILEGED BASIS FOLLOWING LIST OF

#### LOSSES IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR:

- A. 174 DESTROYED CATTLE BARNS (100 CATTLE EACH)
- B. 600 SEVERELY DAMAGED CATTLE BARNS
- C. 11 HECTARS OF DESTROYED GREENHOUSES
- D. 100 HECTARS OF SERIOUSLY DAMAGED GREENHOUSES
- E. 20 WATER-PUMPING TOWERS DESTROYED
- F. 2 DAMAGED FEED MILLS
- G. 21 SILO DAMAGED (50,000 TONS EACH)
- H. 12 FOOD INDUSTRY UNIT (SLAUGHTER HOUSES, CANNERIES, UNCLASSIFIED

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SUGAR AND EDIBLE OIL FACTORIES) OUT OF OPERATION

- I. APPRECIABLE QUANTITIES OF EDIBLE OIL LOST DUE TO RUPTURE OF STORAGE TANKS
- J. 4 MILLION EGGS DESTROYED IN DAMAGED HATCHERIES
- K. 630 RAILWAY CARS OF WINE DESTROYED, INCLUDING 300,000 BOTTLES OF CHAMPAGNE
- 7. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE.

AFTER REQUESTING SEVERAL FOREIGN MISSION TO DEFER SENDING FURTHER AID WHILE IT HAD TIME TO DETERMINE ITS PRIORITY REQUIREMENTS, ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT HAS NOW ACCEPTED OUR OFFERS OF USGS/NBS TEAM AND NFDM AND HAS ASKED WEST GERMAN EMBASSY TO PROCEED WITH ITS SHIPMENT OF TWO PLANELOADS OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES. WE HAVE LEARNED OF FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS:

- A. NETHERLANDS. CASH GIFT OF GUILDERS 500,000 FOR PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT.
- B. ITALY. ONE FULL FIELD HOSPITAL PLUS ADDITIONAL QUANITIES OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND BLANKETS
- C. BELGIUM. FIELD AMBULANCE AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES.
- D. DENMARK. HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT
- E. NORWAY. WHOLE MILK, VW BUSES, WINTER TENTS. AND DOLS 90.000 IN MEDICINES.

F. JORDAN. DOLS 10,000 IN CASH. BARNES

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